



P O BOX 22, Kelleys Island OH 43438

Winter 2015

---

*Our Objectives: The objectives of the Kelleys Island Landowners Association are to preserve the tranquility and beauty of this island by remaining constantly alert and vigilant to any situation that could adversely affect the needs of our members and the island itself. We provide a forum where members can have the opportunity to present ideas, problems, and information; and we bring all available information regarding Kelleys Island to the Village Council and our members.*

### **THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear KILA Members,

2014 was a great year for KILA. Volunteers stepped forward and our Potluck in June, Homecoming in August, and Family Hay Ride in October were very well run events with great turnouts. Your board and I are continually impressed with how easy it is to find volunteers to help with these activities. Special thanks to Wally Christy for running the Potluck, Holly Miller (and family) and Barb Zeller for handling the food at homecoming, Jennifer Pieratt for chairing the Hay Ride; and Jan Killam for her help in developing our new "KILA KARES" program.

This year the board decided to create two new working committees to redistribute the labor-intensive secretary's position that has morphed over the years to be responsible for almost everything, including tracking our membership, and ordering and selling KILA merchandise. Now there are two working committees: Barb Coleman is chairing the membership committee, and Vicki Finnegan is chairing the merchandising committee. Thanks to Barb and Vicki for volunteering.

Financially we are in good shape, with about \$15,000 in our checking account, \$15,000 in our legal fund, and \$2500 in our crime watch program. In 2014 we did pretty good raising money, and pretty good at giving it away. We donated \$2700 to Island and local organizations, including \$1000 to Back to the Wild, and \$1100, from the silent auction at Homecoming, to the EMS for their motorized gurney fund.

Membership-wise we are also doing well. After instituting the \$10 dues, we had about 125 active members last year, a little down from the year before, and we have to believe that paying the dues just slipped some of your minds. We won't let that happen this year. Your board and I have a goal of recruiting more members, so pass the word to your neighbors. The good news is that we have 19 new members that had not joined before. If new to the island, becoming active in KILA is a great way to get to know Kelleys Island and its wonderful residents. And if you are "old" to KI, KILA is a great way to meet newer residents. A win-win.

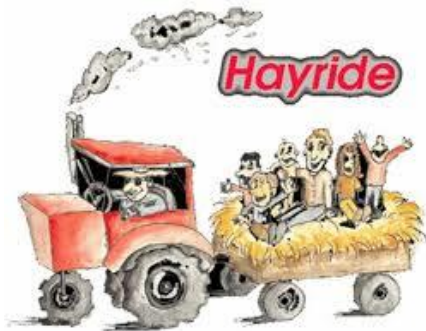
The key to the longevity of any organization is leadership succession, and in 2015 I will be stepping down, after our October meeting, after 5 years as president of KILA. Being the President of KILA has been a very rewarding and enjoyable experience, but I noticed last year that my energy level was not as it should be, and it is time for a change. And so...next summer I may come knocking....

Happy New Year, and I can't wait till summer.

Warmest Regards (especially because I am in Arizona ☺),

Jim Zeller

## KILA HAYRIDE



Fall crafts, as usual, were a big hit as there is something for everyone to do and take home.

The cookie decorating station was a favorite, but I am pretty sure none of them made it home before they were eaten. Games, door prizes and spooky fun music rounded out the party. If you missed it this year, be sure and it on your calendar for next October as it is the best family fun you'll find.

The KILA hayride is sponsored each year by the landowners and hosted by the 4-H Camp. Over 100 enjoyed a frightful good time! The hayride went through the woods this year with some special effects -- and the hot dogs, cider and accompaniments were so delicious we ran out!



## AIRPORT RECEIVES GRANT

While the AIRPORT LEVY failed (view the Erie Co. results at <http://results.ohiohoe.com/erieoh/precinct.htm>), the Federal Aviation Administration has awarded Land Field, the Kelleys Island airport, a \$400,000 grant. It will be used to buy 1.11 acres of land, at the approach to Runway 27, to make landings safer. Although we've been lucky so far, a plane coming in low could potentially hit a vehicle on the road at the end of the runway.



The airport serves as a lifeline for the island, particularly in the winter when the ferries aren't running and only planes can be used to carry mail, people and other vital cargo. The airport can only handle small planes. It mostly accommodates single-engine planes but also can allow smaller twin engine planes to land.

## KI POST OFFICE TO CUT HOURS

The nationwide consolidation plan, mainly impacting post offices in smaller communities, could save \$500 million dollars a year and help with the U.S. Postal Service's plan to stamp out \$100 billion in debt. Kelleys Island is among the offices impacted.

Cutting the weekday hours by 1 hour and 45 minutes, the new Post Office hours starting January 10 will be: Monday thru Friday 8 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. Saturday's hours will remain 8 a.m. to noon. Regardless of the reduced hours, customers can still access their P.O. box during the same hours as they do presently. As of this writing, our Postmaster is still our beloved Jean Peterson, but that may change soon. Jean, we wish you the best and thank you very much for your community spirit and helpful attitude. You are part of the reason living on KI is so special.



## **COUNCIL NEWS**



WATER QUALITY of the municipal water continues to be free of toxins related to the ALGAE BLOOM, as noted in the September 2014 Council meeting. The Village will be receiving equipment, under a grant, that will allow them to test, on site, the quality of the water. The HEALTH DEPT. visited the Council meeting because of the concerns regarding the algae bloom and the reports from Pelee Island that wells contain some lake water. The Health Dept. tested eight wells on the island and the results showed that the wells tested safe – in fact, far better than minimum safe levels. The tests did reveal that while wells on the mainland are about 55 degrees, on the island they are 65-75 degrees and there is minute amounts of phytoplankton in the wells. This indicates a mixing of ground water and lake water.

Attached is a link to the 2014 Lake Erie Ecosystem Priority (LEEP) Report: [http://www.ijc.org/en/\\_leep/report](http://www.ijc.org/en/_leep/report). This report does a great job of explaining what has happened to exacerbate the algae issue, and what we need to do to mitigate it.

The FIRE DEPT. announced that four men have joined the ranks of firefighter volunteers: Brian Terry, Mike Terry, Brad Talmage and Ron Link. Tom McNeal, our MAINTENANCE employee resigned, taking a full-time job repairing ambulances and fire equipment on the mainland. Our full-time POLICE OFFICER, Shawn Craig, resigned in September and TONY JOYCE has left the WATER DEPT.

The FIRE DEPT. advised Council that SKY LANTERNS, which have recently become popular, are now ILLEGAL IN OHIO, primarily due to safety concerns and accidental fires.

The island is becoming a more popular place for COMPETITIVE RUNS, like the long-standing 5/10K run and the newer Half Marathon run. Because these events often require road closures, and the presence of the Police Dept. and the EMS, Council is considering the requirement of a permit for these events.

### **NEW FIRE STATION (SAFETY SERVICES BUILDING)**

Kelleys Island is in a process of replacing its fire station. Completion is expected by Fall of 2015 and preliminary architect plans were made public at the December council meeting. Chief Hostal has appointed a committee to implement the building of this project. The committee consists of Jack Hostal, Rick Holmes and Mike Feyedelem. With a well-implemented plan we can have a functional and cost effective safety services department for years to come!



### **GLACIAL GROOVES REMAIN BIG DRAW FOR SCIENTISTS**

By ANDY OURIEL  
Sandusky Register

One of Earth's greatest mysteries and breathtaking sights resides on Kelleys Island.

On a recent, and ironically, smoldering day, scientists stood in amazement when gazing out toward a swath of prestigious park property once blanketed by a glacier.

"This is just so unique," said D. Mark Jones, a geologist for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. "You are not going to find a feature like this in the continental U.S., possibly not even in the Arctic. We don't know too many other places today where you can find something this exposed" Jones marveled at the Glacial Grooves State Memorial at Kelleys Island State Park. The feature is also known as the Kelleys Island Glacial Grooves and the Glacial Grooves Geological Preserve.



There's no universal, absolute theory scientists agree upon when pinpointing the grooves' origins. "The truth is nobody really knows how it was formed", Jones said.

Here's one commonly accepted educated guess, as outlined on plaques surrounding the 400-foot-long, 35-foot-wide and up to 10-foot-deep grooves: About 35,000 years ago, a southbound advancing glacier coming from Canada completely covered the village. After a 25,000-year or so stay, the glacier moved down Lake Erie but left behind impressive curvy depressions ingrained and carved into limestone bedrock.

"The glaciers were following zones of weaknesses that already existed in the rock" Jones said. "These zones of weaknesses were channeling the glacier and concentrating their flow on a pathway in the bedrock. The glacier could have been up to 1-mile thick. That's a lot of scouring and erosive power"

Jones then stopped himself and brought up some contradictory opinions seemingly boasting some merit as well.

"The majority of the work could have been done by solid ice or meltwater (a combination of mud, rock and ice) getting dragged underneath the glacier"

But here's a fact: The glacial grooves receive credit for helping create Kelleys Island.

"If not for this Columbus limestone, Kelleys Island would not be here" Jones said. "It sticks up from the surrounding landscape in such a way we have Kelleys Island. Kelleys Island, at one time, was more or less a flat lying landscape.

The Columbus limestone forms a ridge of more resistant rock. After the glaciers moved through this ridge, it was more pronounced, and it caused Kelleys Island to stand up above lake level the way it does today"

No matter how it was conceived, studying the glacial grooves is a must for any science lover, young or old.

"The grooves are pretty impressive," said Mark Nida, who traveled from Michigan to view the grooves.

### **KelleysIslandLandowners.com**

KILA has created a website for you to keep up on island news: <http://www.kelleysislandlandowners.org>. The website has links to all the island news, including village council minutes and weather and the Chamber. The Chamber's great event calendar can also be found at [KelleysIslandChamber.com](http://www.kelleysisland.com/information/kelleys-life). Read Kelleys Life online at <http://www.kelleysisland.com/information/kelleys-life>.

For other information like where to stay when you're on the island, where to shop and where to dine, visit: [KelleysIsland.com](http://www.kelleysisland.com). Look into your home's tax information and transaction details at [erie.iviewauditor.com](http://erie.iviewauditor.com). These sites are all linked to KILA's website! Make sure to add it to your "favorites".

### **KILA Dues**

The KILA Board needs revenue to carry out activities from year to year. We respectfully request an annual \$10 dues amount to be submitted to KILA so that you remain in our Active Membership circle. Dues can be paid via PayPal at <http://www.kelleysislandlandowners.org/membership.php>. Payment should be made prior to June 30 of each year. This link can also be used to make your \$35 Initiation Fee payment and \$10 Crimewatch donation.

### **KILA Board Members - These are the people who represent you on the KILA Board**

Drew Algase; Barb Coleman; Frank Dodson; Emil Hach; Holly Miller; Jennifer Pieratt; Jim Zeller; Jan Killam; Vickie Finnegan; Wally Christy; and Bob Howley.

### **KILA Officers**

Jim Zeller - President  
Drew Algase – Vice President  
Emil Hach - Treasurer  
Jennifer Pieratt – Secretary  
[Diane Brookins](#) – Editor

### **Contact KILA**

Have questions, need information? Contact us at KILA, P O Box 22, Kelleys Island, OH 43438 or [kelleysislandlandowners.org](http://www.kelleysislandlandowners.org) and click on CONTACT US in the upper right.

### **Gordon Food Service Account**

We have an account at GFS (Gordon Food Service). Mention the account at checkout to receive a nominal discount. To use the account, just tell them: Kelleys Island Landowners Association, or use our account number: 002279911.



### **ISLAND DEATHS**

**VINNIE L. M. THORNE**, age 54, of Sandusky and Kelleys Island, passed away unexpectedly Aug. 2, 2014, in Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center, Toledo. The family suggests memorial contributions may be made at any local Citizens Bank to the Vinnie L. M. Thorne Memorial Fund. Your memories and words of comfort may be expressed to Vinnie's family at [davidfkoch.com](http://davidfkoch.com) .

**ARDRITA J. BICKLEY**, age 90, of Sandusky, passed away October 1, 2014, in Lutheran Memorial Home, Sandusky. Ardrta was born on Dec. 26, 1923 in Cleveland, and graduated from Kelleys Island High School. The family suggests that memorial contributions may be made in her name to Stein Hospice Service, Inc., 1200 Sycamore Line, Sandusky, OH 44870. Memories and words of comfort may be expressed to Ardrta's family at [davidfkoch.com](http://davidfkoch.com) .

**EUGENE R. MATSO**, age 83. Passed away August 20, 2014. Eugene was born Oct. 2, 1930, on Kelleys Island to Joseph and Mary (Tomko) Matso. Eugene graduated from Kelleys Island High School. Those wishing to contribute to Eugene's memory may do so to the Holy Angels Catholic Church Window Fund, 428 Tiffin Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870; Cancer Services of Erie County, 505 E. Perkins Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870; or Stein Hospice, 1200 Sycamore Line Sandusky, OH 44870.

Condolences may be shared at [grofffuneralhomes.com](http://grofffuneralhomes.com) .

**MYRON "MIKE" PRIEBE**, age 82. Passed away September 8, 2014. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to Ducks Unlimited: [www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org). or visit Jardine Funeral Home in Strongsville at: <http://www.jardinefh.com>.

**JOHN RAY LANGE**, age 87. Passed away Nov. 18, 2014, in Aldie, Va. He was born in Sandusky May 10, 1927, and was raised on Kelleys Island, where he attended school. A spring memorial service will be planned at Hilton Head with interment at St. Francis By The Sea Columbarium. Donations in John's memory can be made to Capital Caring Hospice at [capitalcaring.org/join-us/donate/](http://capitalcaring.org/join-us/donate/) or call (703) 531-2380; or to the Kelleys Island Historical Association at kimuseum-public. [sharepoint.com/Pages/Donate-now.aspx](http://sharepoint.com/Pages/Donate-now.aspx).

**JOYCE M. ERNE**, age 87. Passed away Saturday, Jan. 3, 2015. Joyce was born Nov. 18, 1927, on Kelleys Island. Those wishing to contribute to Joyce's memory may do so to The Meadows at Osborn Park, 3916 Perkins Ave. Huron, OH 44839. Condolences may be shared at [grofffuneralhomes.com](http://grofffuneralhomes.com).